Equal Rights

VOL. XVII, No. 19
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY
JUNE 13, 1931

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JUN 19 1931

A Garden of Feminism

A few of the delegates to the Party Workers' Conference, recently held in Washington, D. C., are seen under the trees in the garden of Alva Belmont House. This garden, the scene of many important Feminist gatherings, was fragrant with roses at the time of the Conference and afforded a charming setting for various social events.

Equal Rights

OFFICIAL ORGAN
of the
National Woman's Party
Capitol Hill,
Washington, D. C.
Phone, Lincoln 1366
Published Weekly
at 19 West Chase Street,
Baltimore, Md.
Phone, Vernon 3279

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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1879.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $2.50

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by Representative Frederick W. Magrady, Pennsylvania.

A Topic of International Interest

UPON passage of the recent amendments to the Cable Nationality Bill, assuring American women that they shall not henceforward lose their nationality because of marriage, the National Woman's Party sent a memorandum regarding United States nationality laws, prepared by Burnita Shelton Matthews, to the diplomatic representatives of other nations stationed in Washington. The response to this information has been immediate, showing unmistakably the importance of the service rendered.

"The amendments will certainly be of value to us. In order to provide our respective department in Bolivia, will you kindly have another set sent to me at your convenience?" writes Don Eduardo Díez de Medina, Minister of Bolivia.

"This summary is very valuable and I think these amendments of great importance in the campaign for equal nationality," declares Don Carlos A. Perdoma, chargé d'affaires of Honduras, adding, "I shall study them carefully and beg to express to you my sincere appreciation for sending them."

"I have read the recent amendments to the Cable Nationality Law and the memorandum concerning them by Mrs. Burnita Shelton Matthews with much interest. Congratulations on the work you are doing,'" says Don Manuel Castro Quesada, Minister of Costa Rica

The Minister of Nicaragua writes: "I assure you I shall be most interested in reading these documents and in keeping them on file for reference."

The acting chargé d'affaires of Mexico states: "The documents and your letter have been forwarded to my Government; and therefore I wish you would be kind enough to send me an extra copy of the three enclosures for this Embassy's files."

"I am glad to have these useful documents," the Belgian Ambassador asserts succinctly. Similar letters, many of them requesting extra copies, have come in from the other embassies and legations. Unquestionably, the nationality of women is a topic of acute international interest!

The Unforgivable Offense

EXPERIENCE is the best, but fortunately not the only, teacher. We advise the Industrial Commissioners of New York State to examine closely the experience of the various countries which have tried out maternity legislation before endorsing too enthusiastically the protection, by restrictive laws, of women before and after childbirth.

In a recent issue of the *Industrial Bulletin* Frieda S. Miller, director of the Division of Women in Industry in New York State, writes: "With the ever-increasing employment of married women in industry, large industrial firms will be faced with the necessity of establishing some definite maternity policy."

We suggest rather that the State should face the problem squarely and should act only after the experience of other countries has been well sifted.

The immediate impulse of those who desire to protect maternity is usually to advocate laws denying women the right to work for a certain period of time before and after childbirth. That laws of this sort are useless is shown by the experience of England.

According to the Open Door Council, England: "The prohibition of work for four weeks after childbirth was passed into law in 1891. The law was and is a dead letter. Even women factory inspectors were not supported by the working women. As far back as 1903—*twelve years after the enactment of the prohibition*—this fact is commented on in current writings. In 1911, however, came the first Health Insurance Act with a Maternity Benefit. In two short years—i. e. by 1913—it is on record that complaints of breach of the law had dropped to eight in number. *Prohibiting the employment of the woman controls neither the woman nor the employer.* The benefit—the positive good—operates immediately."

There must be no mistake, however, as to who carries the burden of the maternity benefit. If the employer is required to pay his married women employees the benefit, he will naturally not employ married women. The enterprise would be too dangerous and costly. The State, which is the beneficiary of motherhood since its continued existence depends upon the birth of each new generation, should assume the responsibility as one of its natural and fundamental obligations.

In England and elsewhere it has been found that making maintenance available succeeds where prohibition fails. Let us hope that New York State will utilize the experience of other countries in protecting its mothers and not commit the unforgivable offense of repeating other people's errors.

Origin of Restrictions on Women as Core Makers

By Burnita Shelton Matthews,
Chairman Lawyers Council,
National Woman's Party

Editor's Note: The May 16, 1931, issue of EQUAL RIGHTS carried a summary of the existing prohibitions and restrictions on the employment of women in core rooms in the United States.

THE movement for laws restricting the employment of women at core making was intiated by organized men molders over the protest of women molders who asserted that such laws would deprive them of continuing to earn their living by the occupation for which they had been trained. Massachusetts and New York were the first States to adopt such legislation.

THE MASSACHUSETTS AGITATION

Apparently the Holyoke Molders' Union started the agitation in Massachusetts to have women prohibited from making cores. The union asserted that a large foundry had displaced men in their core rooms by the employment of women, and moreover, that core making is no job for women. The State Branch of the American Federation of Labor at its convention in 1911 passed a resolution to sponsor a bill in the legislature calling "for the abolishment of female employees in the core rooms and manufacturing departments of iron foundries[1]." Then the union proceeded to ask candidates for State offices to commit themselves on the proposal to put women out of core rooms, and it was made an issue in the campaign.

In 1912 the bill proposed by the molders came before the legislature. Besides the local molders' unions, and the State Branch of the American Federation of Labor, the bill was supported by the International Molders' Union. It was opposed by women core makers and others. Opposition speakers asserted that core making required no more strength than family wash and no more heat than the kitchen, that the wages were better than in most other occupations and that the jobs were in great demand by women.

Members of the legislature serving on the labor committee visited some of the foundries. The press at the time stated that the visits indicated to the members that core making was "about the best work in which women can be employed.** The work was not hard, while the pay was good[2]." Accordingly the committee refused to report the bill advocated by organized men molders to oust the women molders.

Later, however, a compromise bill was agreed upon by the labor committee and representatives of men molders. This compromise measure, as adopted, empowered the State Board of Health to investigate the employment of women in core rooms and to make rules regarding such employment, the rules to concern the structure and location of the rooms, the emissions of gases and fumes from ovens, and the size and weight of cores women were to lift or work on.[3]

The Board of Health conducted an investigation in 1912 and issued six rules. Rule 1 required separation from the foundry of core rooms where women are employed so as not to expose women to the gases and fumes from the foundry. Rule 2 required a separate entrance for core rooms where women are employed so as not to require them to pass through the foundry on their way to and from work. Rule 3 required the ovens located in the core rooms to be so constructed, and mechanical devices used when necessary, as to carry off the fumes generated in the process of baking the cores. Rule 4 prohibited women from carrying cores from benches to ovens. Rule 5 fixed 40 pounds as the maximum weight for a woman to lift, but Rule 6 permitted a public health inspector to change the maximum lifting weight for any woman if on personal examination of such woman working in a core room a change seemed safe and proper. Further, the board declared: "It does not seem necessary to prescribe any limit for the size and the weight which women shall work on, as such work does not seem injurious to a woman's health."

The men molders were very much chagrined at the failure to oust women from the core rooms of foundries. They continued, therefore, their efforts to put obstacles in the way of their women competitors. In 1913 they secured the passage of a law directed at the foundries and stipulating that boxes, baskets and other receptacles not less than two feet in width, two and one-half feet long and two feet high or equivalent dimensions if moved by females in any manufacturing or mechanical establishment were to be provided with a device to make the moving from place to place easier.[4] Later the dimensions were eliminated and the law made to apply to boxes and other receptacles weighing 75 pounds or more including their contents.[5]

The State Board of Industries took over the duties of the State Board of Health respecting the employment of women in core rooms, and in 1917 the board first named completely revised the regulations of 1912. While the State Board of Health in 1912 had found it not necessary to women's health "to prescribe any limit for the size and weight which women shall work on," the Board of Industries in 1917 issued a rule not permitting women to work on any core the total cubical contents of which exceeds two cubic feet, or the total weight of which including plate, core box or boxes exceeds 60 pounds. The 1917 rules further provide that no female shall lift any core or cores upon one plate, the total cubical contents of which exceeds one cubic foot, or the total weight of which including plate, core box or boxes exceeds 25 pounds unless assisted by mechanical appliances that limit her physical efforts to 25 pounds. Other regulations make discretionary with the Department of Labor and Industries the requiring of specially constructed partitions between rooms in which women are making cores and adjoining rooms in which core ovens are located if the making and baking of cores are simultaneous operations and the process generates objectionable gases, smoke and fumes. If partitions are required openings between the core oven rooms and the rooms in which women are working must be vestibuled with a self-closing device to exclude gases, fumes and smoke from the rooms in which women are employed.[6]

THE NEW YORK AGITATION

The men molders in New York began as early as 1910 to argue for the barring of women at core making.[7] A bill supported by the State Branch of the American Federation of Labor was introduced for that purpose and failed of passage. Then the unions cleverly interested the New York Factory Investigating Commission in the so-called evils of work by women in foundries. The Commission adopted the view of the molders' union that "the foundry is no place for women[8]." Said the Commission in part:

> "We believe that it would have been far better if women had never been originally allowed to enter this employment.
>
> "There are today, however, about three hundred women earning a livelihood from this work upon which they are dependent for their support. Many of these have appealed to the Commission not to deprive them of what they, in small country towns, consider their only means of earning a living.
>
> "We cannot say that work in a core room as such, is under all circumstances and conditions absolutely detrimental to a woman's health. Although we should like to see this work stopped, and believe that its suppression would be beneficial to the race, . . . nevertheless we cannot at this time recommend an entire prohibition of work that would result in throwing the three hundred women now in the industry out of employment. We believe that work by women in core rooms should be strictly confined to its present limits, and should be gradually eliminated. It should be discouraged and ultimately suppressed. Every obstacle should be thrown in the way of its increase and expansion.
>
> ". . . If it is impracticable, as some of the foundry owners have testified, to separate the room in which the women are employed from the core oven by a substantial partition, so as (to) prevent the core-gas from escaping into the room in which the women work, these owners should cease to employ women in work never intended for them. We have no sympathy for the foundry owner who appeared before us and said that so far as work in the core room was concerned, there should be no distinction as to sex.
>
> ". . . Nature itself has made the distinction which the foundry owner has said should not be made. Instincts of chivalry and decency as well as concern for the preservation of the race, demand that we should not permit women to engage in work detrimental to their health, that

overtaxes their strength, and impairs their vitality as wives and mothers.

"The Commission has received descriptions of the abuses that the employment of women in core rooms had led to in other States. We have been told that the cores on which women originally began to work were of a small size but that today the women are making cores with a rammer and the size of these cores is such that they have to be hoisted by a derrick.

". . . We believe that these opinions are shared generally by the people of the State who do not wish to see their women employed at manual labor in foundries."

According to one analysis of the Commission's proceedings: "The Commission seems to have considered it not worth while to consult 'their women' themselves about whether they wanted to be removed from the work which they 'in small country towns consider their only means of earning a living' and it would seem that the voluntary opposition to exclusion from foundries raised by these women was given scant attention. . . . In the last analysis, . . the strongest influences that bore upon the prohibition of core making as an occupation for women were, firstly, the persistent objection to their employment by the molders' union and, secondly, 'the instincts of chivalry and decency.' It was not shown that women's health need be menaced by this occupation and the opinions of the women themselves were practically ignored. Nevertheless, it was decided 'that every obstacle should be thrown in the way' of their employment[9]."

The measure adopted in New York in 1913, largely as a result of the Commission's report, prohibited the employment of women at or in connection with the making of cores where the oven in which the cores are baked is in operation in the same rooms in which the cores are made. The law also required specially constructed partitions between rooms in which core ovens are located and rooms where cores are made by women if the making and baking of cores are simultaneous operations, and all openings in the partitions must be vestibuled with a self-closing device sufficient to trap gases and fumes. The Industrial Board was given power to make rules and regulations as to the operation of core rooms and the size and weight of cores to be handled by women.[10]

Testimony given at the hearing on the bill indicates what moved the molders to action. One union representative was asked what would become of the women core makers if the legislature prohibited their employment and he readily answered: "That would be easily taken up. All you would have to do would be to look at our Buffalo *Evening News* and see the Want Ad column for girls in housework where they belong. I don't think they should be employed in factories. I think the men should be left to make living wages to support the girls and their families. . . We know it is no place for them, and one well-known fact I know is that some women—I have worked with women nineteen years—that they could not boil water without burning it, and to become the wife of a man they should have a training at home and learn housework."[11]

Following the adoption of the law in 1913, the Industrial Board, besides adopting rules governing construction, prohibited in 1915 the handling by women of cores with a temperature of over 110 degrees Fahrenheit, and the making or handling of cores when the combined weight of core, core box and plate at which a woman works exceeds 25 pounds.[12] The result was practically to exclude women from the foundry.

The attitude of molders in general has been against women as core makers, this being evidenced by resolutions of the International Molders' Union of North America favoring "the restriction of the further employment of . . woman labor in union core rooms and foundries, and eventually the elimination of such labor in all foundries" and opposing the employment of female labor "in jobs recognized distinctively as men's employment[13]."

The stand of the Woman's Party is that women shall no longer be barred from any occupation, but every occupation open to men shall be open to women, and restrictions upon the hours, conditions, and remuneration of labor shall apply alike to both sexes.

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A Working Woman in Georgia

By Josephine Casey

Editor's Note: Miss Casey, formerly an organizer for the American Federatton of Labor, is now organizing for the Woman's Party among the textile workers of Georgia. This is the fourth of a series of articles describing her experiences.

PERHAPS some suffragists will remember how in the good old days, the people would tell us of the terrible things the women were doing in the few States where women already had the vote. We never believed them; and anyhow, there was Kansas. No one had ever said anything about Kansas. Well, it seems that what Kansas was to suffragists, La Grange, Georgia, is to the textile industry. Everywhere I went the report was favorable.

The mill villages are on the outskirts of the pretty little town. You reach one of the villages by bus; but to get to the others you take a taxi or walk. I went to Calloway, Inc., first. My first two contacts showed an interesting contrast. The girl in the front office was likeable. While I waited for the interview she told me about the fine variety of iris they were growing in the village. When the manager was free to see me, I found myself opposite a set jaw and a pair of eyes that seemed to bore through one. I talked, he came back with statements and questions. I wondered if he was also the lawyer for the company. However, there is compensation about a strong opponent—if he has true strength, not stubborness, he knows it is foolish to kid himself and he will admit the truth when he sees it. This manager soon perceived that I was justified in coming to Georgia and in doing all in my power to prevent the word "women" taking the place of "persons" in the State laws. He was kind enough later to take me through the big mill.

I sometimes thought I might say a mill was sanitary, but I never expected to call one beautiful; yet facts compel me to describe this one as beautiful. Large floor space, with the wall on each side made of glass, the upper part painted blue; the theory for this being that using the color makes for ultra violet rays from the sun. Through one glass side I saw a great flowering bush of Dorothy Perkins roses, and from the opposite window a large pool of water.

The girls were of superior type—well-dressed, and obviously well bred. One girl told me she had completed her four years at the high school in Carrollton. She knew stenography and could work on books, but preferred to make soft wigs of exquisite colors.

At the Dunson mill village there were 35 graduating from the grade school; and 23 of them were born in the village. A woman secretary showed me pictures of children in costume plays. I saw healthy boys in baseball costume and each mill boasted of some in the village who had made the football team. I mention these things because I think the sentimental gesture from the Textile Institute was as misleading for the La Grange cotton mills

as it was for us. It certainly does give the impression, when one hears that children are to be sent home from night work, that children are now working nights. And this kind of impression is helpful neither to Georgia nor to cotton. Ask Barron Collier or any big advertiser, and this will be verified. For the Institute was certainly doing what Bernard Shaw calls "time lagging" when it made that announcement about "sending women and children home." They tried to get modern people to fall for a slogan that might have been emotionally persuasive a generation ago.

At the Dixie Mill, as at the Dunson and the Calloway Company, I was assured there would be no discrimination against women. I like particularly what Mr. Nelson of the Dunson Company said—that he could never agree to it while work was slack.

There does not seem to be discrimination in those mills. No one here could know that I was to visit a home where the woman had just returned to work after a six months absence. She is a married woman. Furthermore, she is a weaver, and there is competition for that job. Sometimes a woman might be working in a spool room while her husband is out of work. Theorists say he ought to work and she should stay at home; but that is like saying that a seamstress should give her job to her husband who is a stationary foreman.

A little boy innocently expressed it when someone asked him why his father was not working and his mother staying home. He said, "Mother can make more in two days than dad can in the whole week." This is no reflection on dad; evidently he is not on the job he can do best.

The women of the South have long since proved equality between men and women. Yesterday I talked with a woman whose family were the first settlers in Alabama. They had to chop down trees and chase wolves and rattlers before they could start to plant. And when they did get ready to plant it was discovered the beans were forgotten and it was grandmother alone who trekked back to North Carolina to get them — a terrible journey in those days. Surely the descendants of such women have not lost ability! Wouldn't it be great to see the old strength of character flash out and free the women of the whole United States?

A Novel View by George Bernard Shaw

WRITING in the Ceylon *Daily News,* Hayden Church reports an interview with the world's most famous Feminist, George Bernard Shaw. The interview is so characterful and so entertaining that we quote it in full as follows:

"The wisest thing any country whose Chief of State has real power could do," declared the author of Saint Joan, "would be to re-enact the Salic Law, excluding men instead of women, from all posts of authority, except perhaps minor ones such as men are capable of filling.

"They held a general election in the United States some time ago," Mr. Shaw went on, "and unlike the one we conducted simultaneously, it had some desirable results. The principle of these was the election, for the first time in history, of women as governors of two American States— the great States of Texas and Wyoming."

"That is a most hopeful protest because the governor of every American State and the actual ruler of every country ought to be a woman. It must be evident to anyone who has studied history, or appreciates the differences in the mentality of the sexes, that women make, and always have made, abler, more intelligent and eminently safer rulers than men."

"Would the United States be better off if its Presidents were women instead of men?" I asked somewhat startled.

"Undoubtedly, the United States would be wise in having women as Presidents, if the Presidency were a life office," was the emphatic reply. "But as it is commonly held for only four years it doesn't make much difference."

"Do you seriously believe," I asked him, "that women make better rulers than men?"

"Much better! A woman can manage men much more effectively than a man can and gets them to work more intelligently and more loyally. The majority of male rulers and heads of Republics pick the most obviously unfitted persons for offices of State. As a rule women do their chosing much better. And men work under a woman with much less friction; the relations between woman and man are never quite so strained as between man and man. Administration by subordinate male statesmen worked smoothly under Queen Victoria and it does today under Queen Wilhelmina.

"For sheer ability Queen Elizabeth was by far the best sovereign England ever had. In point of fact, she made mischief, because she was so autocratic, and had so much sheer ability that she left the throne too strong, with the result that the weak men who came after her—James I, and Charles—and tried to rule as she did, made an unholy mess of things. Queen Elizabeth reigned by the sheer force of her intelligence and personality. Any competent would-be usurper with 500 men behind him would have ousted her at any time. She had nothing to go on with but her own wits. But she was as safe as houses.

"Of course, one disadvantage about having women as sovereigns and presidents," Mr. Shaw went on, "is that you are sure to get them too clever. You would be sure to get more queens like Christian of Sweden. She was much too clever and lived like a man. She was a general like Joan of Arc.

"The fact is that women are never quite as big fools as men. Whatever their defects may be, they are never handicapped by man's impracticability and sentimentality. Women have to have common sense. They must have it because it is they who are responsible for the bread and butter arrangements. They get practice in managing things by having to keep their homes in order. Men leave it all to them.

"Yes, there is a beautiful directness about all women. They succeed in getting what they want by going straight for their objective. In one of my plays a woman says: 'The only way to get what you want is to go right for it and grab it.' Men, on the other hand, invariably explore the most roundabout methods. American men particularly." (Mr. Shaw invariably has a red in pickle for our masculine "cousins.") "If an American wants anything, he first goes to a policeman and asks if he can direct him to an agent. Then he asks his agent to get another agent, or he tries to find somebody in Russia to come get the thing for him. In such dealings as I have had with women they go straight to the mark. A man who wants to get anything out of me generally goes to the person most obviously unconnected with me—usually to the Archbishop of Canterbury — and asks him if he knows anybody who can get 'round Shaw. A woman comes straight to me.

"If a man hears that somebody in Aberdeen took the chair for me at a lecture ten years ago, he is practically certain to buy a first-class ticket for Aberdeen, with the idea of getting this man as an intermediary between him and myself, overlooking the fact that I am at the other end of the telephone.

"Men make a hopeless mess of politics because, once they get talking among themselves about anything, they go on talking and do nothing. Men imagine that if they only talk long enough about anything they are sure to accomplish something, or, more often than not they talk so long about the thing that they end by convincing themselves that nothing is something. That is the sort of thing that women don't do."

Equality in Party Organization

DEMANDING equality with men for women in the official councils of the country's great political parties, Nellie Tayloe Ross, vice-chairman of the Democratic National Committee, speaking before the Women's Democratic Clubs of Maryland, said that while women could congratulate themselves on their political progress in the last decade they should bemoan the fact that they do not as yet use their political power advantageously.

She said:

"With the ballot women took upon themselves responsibility equal to that of men for the conditions under which we live. They possess full political power. It must be said, however, in justice to them, that in the ten years they have had it, they have not learned how to use it to the best advantage. Women have been floundering ever since they got the ballot, trying their best to find the channel through which to make it count. They will continue to flounder until they find adequate representation in the official councils of the parties, from precinct committees up, and stand side by side with their husbands and brothers, pursuing with them an intelligently conceived co-ordinated plan.

"Be it said to the glory of the Democratic Party that it was the first to give women equal representation in the National Committee. In local units, however, all over the country, State, county and precinct, there is yet much to be desired in emulating that example. There is a dispostion in too many units, State, county, and precinct, to regard the efforts of women as something auxiliary to those of masculine party leaders rather than an essential integral part of party projects. In many localities women are not expected to have any real voice in determining policies and strategy. I would emphasize, however, parenthetically, that Democratic women have received considerably more recognition than their Republican sisters.

"It doesn't take a brilliant mind to see that so long as women workers in politics exhaust their efforts as free lances on the outside, not knowing what plans and strategy are being developed on the inside, there is going to be sad waste of time and effort and money and considerable duplication of work that men are doing independently.

"When it is considered that women started ten years ago almost without any place whatever in politics, perhaps we should felicitate one another that we have made as must progress as we have.

"I am the last woman in the world to voice any personal grievance against the attitude of the men of my party. I have been the recipient of too much consideration at their hands. There is a deep conviction in me, however, that generally speaking, all over the country they have failed to give due cognizance to the fact that we have entered upon a new era when women in politics as in most other fields of endeavor constitute an incalculable source of strength—likewise a powerful factor that must increasingly be reckoned with.

"I would make this suggestion to you, my women associates who are engaged in political work. Keep ever before your eyes the object toward which you are striving. Certainly you are not merely seeking diversion. There is no excuse for the existence of parties nor political clubs nor for any partisan activities unless they serve as a means to get certain definite principles applied to the problems of government. To get the principles applied, we must elect to office men and women who adhere to them. So in the last analysis, the one great purpose of all our striving is to win votes. And remember one person's vote counts as much as another's. It doesn't matter whether he be rich or poor or of high or low estate."

Press Comment

Women and the League

World-Telegram, New York City, May 29, 1931.

THE League of Nations has learned something about the determination of women to achieve a new order for themselves.

Last year The Hague Codification Conference, organized under the auspices of the League to codify international law, started its work by adopting a convention on nationality which contained many of the outworn discriminations against women.

There were violent protests. The United States, which has removed practically every feminine handicap from its nationality laws, refused to sign the convention.

Since then not a single nation has approved the proposed code, and protests have continued to pour in.

Accordingly the League has reopened the whole question and placed it on the agenda of the 1931 Assembly. It has, in addition, appointed a committee of sixteen women from eight women's international organizations to make recommendations on the subject.

The women whose efforts brought about these results have done an excellent piece of work. If international law is to be codified it should contain the best and most advanced thought, instead of mediæval custom that has not yet been rooted out of national codes. To force a woman to abandon her nationality at marriage is one of these mediæval anachronisms.

Some day women will demand from statesmen the right not only to recommend as to their destinies, but to control the decisions which affect them.

Give Women a Chance

The News, Baltimore, Md., June 4, 1931.

WHEN Miss Emilie A. Doetsch, assistant city solicitor, suggested in a speech at the convention of the National Woman's Party in Washington that the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute should open its doors to girls, it would seem, in the language of the day, that she had started something.

For Dr. Weglein, superintendent of Baltimore Public Schools, in indorsing the theory of scientific education for women, says that if enough girl students desire such training, they can have it.

And Miss Laura Cairnes, principal of the Eastern High School, expresses the opinion that there are enough girl students in Baltimore who desire technical training to warrant the operation of a school for them.

The Baltimore *News*, desiring to settle the question promptly, asks if Baltimore has 30 girls who desire this new type of school.

Every day women are invading fields of endeavor heretofore sacred to the one-time sterner sex. And every day clever women are winning success in these fields.

Miss Doetsch, for instance, is Baltimore's first municipal solicitor and has filled her office ably and well.

Women are proving themselves good doctors, good lawyers, good aviators, good financiers and good business heads.

Give woman a chance, and there is no limit to her capacity for work and her talent for success.

Women in Politics

Christian Science Monitor, Boston, Mass., June 4, 1931.

THERE is a certain justification for the complaint of a leader of the National Woman's Party that members of her sex have not received from the authorities of the established parties the measure of political consideration and preferment which

their numbers and their activities deserved.

No woman sits in the United States Senate, though a member of that sex, who was supposed to have most exact knowledge of political methods, made a strenuous struggle for a seat representing Illinois. There are women in the House of Representatives, but all except one are the widows or the daughters of successful male politicians. Although at least two of them have shown notable skill as politicians and capacity as legislators, the feeling still holds that they owe their positions largely to the names they bear.

No woman has ever sat in the President's Cabinet, though one or two posts in that group seem eminently fit for feminine occupany. Moreover, since the august Supreme Court has ruled that no woman unwilling to bear arms and fight in defense of the nation shall be granted citizenship, it would seem that even the post of Secretary of War should be open to her.

The spokesmen of the Woman's Party are aroused over this situation. Many who earnestly supported woman suffrage are disappointed by it. Is the virtual exclusion of women from positions of political leadership due to their incapacity to fill them, or to the selfishness of men in power, who have the politicians' feeling that there are not enough jobs to go round anyway? The latter is probably the controlling reason.

Such incapacity as exists is, rather, an incapacity to fight for and win recognition than any inability to perform the duties of any offices won. The sex has not yet fully grasped the fact that in politics nothing comes from courtesy, and mighty little through favor. Offices have seldom sought the man and they are not likely to go seeking the woman.

Courtesy has secured for women posts on the national committees of both old parties, but how much influence do they exert there? Courtesy wins a Congressional seat for the widow of a Representative and, if she has ability, she is permitted to retain it. But if women in politics want more than this, they must prove their ability as organizers and back up their specific demands by showing that they have enrolled voting strength back of them. Only thus can the male—notoriously selfish and long accustomed to keeping the political plum tree for himself—be made to let go. With all deference to the ladies who made protest at Washington a day or two ago, it is organization, not oratory, that wins the prize.

On the Inside in Washington

By Elizabeth May Craig
Press-Herald, Portland, Maine, May 20, 1931.

THE Woman's Party is asking action by Congress to ensure that no American-born woman shall ever be deported again, regardless of how the technicalities of the present laws work out. As time goes on, of course, here will be fewer and fewer women who would be affected by the old expatriation act whereby women took the nationalities of their husbands. Since 1922 very few women have lost their American citizenship by reason of marriage, and under the revised Cable Act none lose citizenship by marriage to an alien. But there are bound to crop up cases of injustice left over from the old regime, and it is to prevent these that the Woman's Party wants to set up the flat principle that no American-born woman shall be deported.

Feminist Notes

Matrimony and Unemployment—For Women

MARRIED women teachers were victorious in two recent Board of Education battles, one in Madison, Wisconsin, and one in Cleveland, Ohio.

In Cleveland, Alfred A. Benesch, member of the board, introduced a resolution to eliminate married women teachers in the public schools and to employ single women in their places. He met with solid disapproval and opposition and finally withdrew his resolution when the personnel bureau informed him that there were no bona fide graduates of the Cleveland school of education without a job.

Signed contracts for next year's school term were immediately mailed to 350 married women teachers.

The Madison teachers weren't quite so successful for their arch foe, Herbert C. Schenk, never did give in and refused to vote to accept the superintendent's report. There is a possibility of a further fight next year ending in some definite policy on the question of employing married women teachers.

Superintendent R. W. Bardwell recommended the re-election of the entire staff of the Madison schools. Schenk objected to the employment of married women whose husbands are earning salaries. He said many of the women teachers were married to men on the instructional staff of the university and added:

"It is unreasonable and unfair for men and women to draw salaries from the State and city when so many people are unemployed. I consider this hogging."

Professor William G. Rice then spoke up calmly and said he failed to see any justice or logic in depriving anyone from working regardless of whether or not they are married. He suggested that married women should not be singled out but that if the board really needed a new policy it should consider the question of whether the men or women engaged in schools have dependents to support.

The president of the board, John P. Butler, said he had heard considerable criticism of the board for employing women whose husbands are able to support them. However, he voted for the re-election of the present staff as did all of the members except the indominitable Mr. Schenk.

Steady Aviator

"A MIGHTY creditable performance for any pilot" is the description given by one airman of the calm and masterly piloting that brought Opal Logan Kunz and her plane down without much injury to either while fuel oil poured over her face and blinded her.

Flying to Washington from New York to arrange for the formal organization of the Betsy Ross Corps, a governmental war reserve organization of women pilots, Mrs. Kunz had an uneventful trip until she neared the Washington landing field. Suddenly, her gasoline line parted and fuel sprayed into the cabin and half blinded her. She instantly shut off the ignition, killing her engine, thus preventing a fire, and began to make a dead-stick landing. All would have been well except for the fuel in her eyes, as she could not see a wire fence across the road. The landing wheels of her plane tangled in the wire and the plane gave a nose dive, but escaped with damage to the wings and the propeller, while Mrs. Kunz was not even scratched.

"She was steady as a rock," said the maintenance chief at the airport, and indeed for all her masterly exhibition of skill and courage, she was more calm than any of the witnesses of the accident.

And Still in the Air

NOW Ruth Nichols, who still holds the altitude record for women flyers after careful checking of Elinor Smith's barograph after a recent flight which was thought to break the record, is planning a solo flight across the Atlantic. She plans to go in the same plane in which she crossed the continent in 13 hours and 22 minutes last December and set altitude and speed records.

She will make many flying tests with heavy loads before starting off. She may sail direct to Paris if conditions are favorable, but her destination is not definitely selected. She hopes to make the 1,800-mile water jump from Harbor Grace to Ireland in daylight and to break the present record of 16 hours and 12 minutes. Clarence Chamberlin has been coaching her in navigation, blind flying, and night flying.

Amelia Earhart is the only woman to

successfully cross the ocean and she had a pilot and companions. Frances Grayson, the Honorable Elsie MacKay, Princess Lowenstein-Wertheim, and Beryl Hart have been lost at sea and Ruth Elder's plane came down.

Senator Bingham, president of the National Aeronautics Association, has just stated that "stunts" are detrimental to aeronautics. He said:

"I approve of efforts to break world records, because they bring out weaknesses and point the way for future developments. I approve of well organized races for the same reason.

"But in most cases world records can be established without running unjustifiable risks of loss of life. Loss of life in aviation stunt flying has a retarding effect on the progress of aeronautics and the confidence of the public.

"So far as long distance transportation in the air is concerned, what is needed today more than anything else is the winning of public confidence in the safety of the flying machine, whether heavier or lighter than air, and in reasonable assurance against loss of time."

There are now 419 licensed women aircraft pilots and five women mechanics in the country, according to the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce.

And on May 9, the last step in the creation of a reserve corps of American woman pilots for non-combatant aviation duty in time of national emergency was taken. At this meeting, members of the "Betsy Ross Corps," including most of the famous women flyers in the country were sworn in at Continental Hall in Washington. Opal Logan Kunz is national commander. A West coast training camp will be opened in June in California and an East coast camp near New York next September. Women pilots will be given flying and field training, ambulance and first aid instruction.

Mrs. Kunz recently flew down from New York to arrange for the meeting. The organization is based on the British Women's Auxiliary Corps.

News from the Field

Business and Professional Women Meet

THE last meeting of the Business and Professional Council of the Maryland Branch before the summer recess was a subscription supper held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Donald R. Hooker in Roland Park on May 26 at 6 P. M. After a delightfully informal meal, presided over by Mollye H. Rollman, the guests adjourned to the garden, where, under a clear evening sky with a young moon overhead and the twittering of the birds in the nearby bushes and trees, plans were made for the fall and winter's work, to include debates on live issues and a series of round table conferences, with perhaps meetings twice a month.

Catherine Cecelia Gaule brought up the question of discriminations against women in the classified service of Baltimore and cited her experience along this line, so the Council ever on the defensive against injustices aimed at women appointed one of their number, a social worker, to take up the matter with the head of the City Merit System.

The Council also went on record as endorsing the continuation in office of Emilie A. Doetsch, assistant city solicitor, and the appointment of Ida I. Kloze as a second assistant in the city solicitor's office. Both Miss Doetsch and Miss Kloze are members of the Baltimore Bar and are active workers in the Woman's Party.

Mildred Kahler Geare, newspaper woman with all the alertness that that implies, suggested that a federation of business and professional women's clubs be created, patterned somewhat after the Federation of Women's Clubs. In Baltimore alone there are at least five such organizations with another, a brand-new infant in the offing. Those functioning now are the Business and Professional Women's Club, the Zonta Club, Quota, the Soroptomist International and the Business and Professional Women's Council. This federation would act as a clearing-house for business and professional women and general meetings with delegates from all over the State would aid women greatly in their fight for equality.

Rose DeWald, vice-president of the council, was named as chairman, with full power to appoint her own committee, to confer with the presidents of these other clubs regarding this federation.

So interested a worker is Mrs. DeWald that, although having an eight o'clock engagement at least six or seven miles away, she corraled her committee before leaving and started things humming along the proper channels.

The council is now rounding out the second year of its brief existence, and although its growth has entailed much telephoning, drop-in visits whenever feasible, and personal letters, constant effort, that effort has been repaid in the slow but steady growth of the council, and Maryland now has a new group of interested effective workers who will do much to wipe out the existing discriminations which hamper the women of the gallant Free State.

For the Amendment

THE Business Women's Legislative Council of California, realizing that there is no security nor permanency about State legislation, unanimously endorsed at its May meeting the Lucretia Mott Amendment—"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

The council also adopted an educational program for the coming year on the advantages of equal opportunity under the law for men and women in business, in industry and in the professions. These educational programs are for the benefit of all organizations of business and professional women.

New Rochelle Meeting

THREE political speakers, representing as many parties, addressed a meeting of National Woman's Party members at the home of Mrs. Gay E. Milius, New Rochelle, New York, on Friday, May 29. The first speaker was George E. Cade, president of the Citizens' New Charter League, which sponsored the New Rochelle's new city manager charter, and which has a full mayoralty and councilmanic ticket in the coming primary race, who, explaining that the candidates endorsed by the league were free from party or political influence, declared that the Charter League was not political in character and had no political axe to grind except to promote good government.

Council President Stanley W. Church spoke next, giving a brief review of his political career and urging the voters to examine the qualifications of the candidates carefully before voting in September. Mr. Church also endorsed the city manager form of government.

The third speaker was Henry A. Cary, vice-president of the Boston Post Road Association, who has filed for mayor in the primary. Mr. Cary outlined his aims in the coming race and gave a short history of his career in civic matters.

All three speakers agreed that the presence of a woman in the city council would have a salutary effect on the administration; but, for no obvious reason, counseled delay until the new form of government had been given a test.

Filipino Feminism

HAZEL CLARK TAYLOR, formerly a member of the faculty of the Univisitor at Alva Belmont House. Mrs. Tayvsitor at Alva Belmont House. Mrs. Taylor, a specialist on Philippine folklore and a contributor to *Asia* and other magazines, says that a long residence in Manila has convinced her that the Philippine woman is a true Feminist from sheer instinct, displaying in social and business life a most unusual degree of initiative, energy and executive ability.

DAY PRINTING COMPANY
PUBLICATIONS AND BOOKS
600 East Lombard Street
Baltimore, Md.